

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A retainer to secure ends of an elastomeric band used to bundle objects, said
2 retainer comprising, a body portion defining a notch adapted to receive one side of
3 the band, said body portion defining a mouth portion of said notch that has an axial
4 dimension less than an adjacent band receiving portion of said notch, whereby the
5 band is distorted to fit through said mouth portion and once through said mouth
6 portion expands within said band receiving portion to a dimension greater than that
7 of said mouth portion, thereby radially securing said band within said notch.
- 1 2. The retainer of claim 1, wherein said band receiving portion is in the form of a slot
2 oriented substantially parallel to the axis of the retainer.
- 1 3. The retainer of claim 1, wherein said notch has a thickness of about .045 inches to
2 about .075 inches.
- 1 4. The retainer of claim 1, wherein said mouth portion is centered with respect to said
2 band receiving portion.
- 1 5. The retainer of claim 1, wherein said band receiving portion has a width from about
2 .35 inches to about .625 inches.
- 1 6. The retainer of claim 1, wherein said mouth portion of said notch has a width from
2 about .125 inches to about .25 inches.
- 1 7. The retainer of claim 1, wherein said body portion has a length of about 1.3 inches
2 to about 2.2 inches and a thickness of about .25 inches to about .375 inches.
- 1 8. The retainer of claim 1, wherein at least one tab extends axially from said body
2 portion radially over said notch to define said mouth portion.
- 1 9. The retainer of claim 8, wherein said tab portion has a thickness of about .035
2 inches to about .05 inches.

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- 1 10. ~~The retainer of claim 8, wherein said body portion includes a single tab extending~~
 2 axially to define said mouth portion, wherein said tab extends axially over a
 3 majority of said band receiving portion.
- 1 11. The retainer of claim 8, wherein said body portion includes a first tab and a second
 2 tab extending axially toward each other to define said mouth portion.
- 1 12. ~~A wrap comprising, an elastomeric band, a retainer having a body defining a notch~~
 2 ~~for receiving widthwise a portion of said elastomeric band, a band receiving portion~~
 3 ~~of said notch, a first tab extending axially over said band receiving portion of said~~
 4 ~~notch and defining a mouth portion of said notch, wherein said mouth portion has~~
 5 ~~a width less than the width of said elastomeric band.~~
- 1 13. A wrap of claim 12, wherein said body has a second tab extending axially toward
 2 but spaced from said first tab to define said mouth portion.
- 1 14. The wrap of claim 12 further comprising, a second notch located substantially
 2 diametrically opposite said first notch.
- 1 15. ~~The wrap of claim 13, wherein said first and second notches are symmetrical about~~
 2 ~~an axis of said body of said retainer.~~
- 1 16. The wrap of claim 12 further comprising, a second tab extending from said body
 2 portion opposite said first tab, wherein said mouth portion is defined between said
 3 first and second tabs.
- 1 17. The wrap of claim 16, wherein said first and second tabs extend equidistantly from
 2 said body portion to define a substantially T-shaped notch.
- 1 18. The wrap of claim 16, further comprising a second notch having a mouth defined
 2 by at least one tab that is less than said width of a side of said elastomeric band,
 3 whereby one portion of said elastomeric band is received within said first notch and

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4 another portion of said elastomeric band is received in said second notch and
5 radially retained by the respective tabs.

1 19. The wrap of claim 18, wherein said second notch includes a pair of spaced tabs
2 extending from said body portion to define said opening.

1 20. The wrap of claim 18, wherein said notches are symmetrical about an axially
2 extending centerline of said retainer.

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